



18 OCT 1968

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

SUBJECT: NSA/CIA ELINT RDT&E

REFERENCES: (a) National ELINT Plan, 8 February 1966  
(b) NSCID - 5  
(c) NSCID - 6

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum of understanding is to identify and clarify the procedures to be used in the exchange of data relating to and coordination of ELINT RDT&E as called for in the references.

II. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the procedures established herein is to provide for the enhancement of orderly and efficient coordination and technical data exchange on ELINT RDT&E matters which are of common concern to NSA and CIA.

III. DEFINITIONS

The terms used herein are defined in the referenced documents or are in common usage, except:

A. ELINT RDT&E consists of research, development, test and evaluation activities/efforts which are directed specifically toward improved capabilities for performing ELINT activities.

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793, 794 and 793, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

NSA review completed

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B. ELINT RDT&E Requirements are specific statements of needs for RDT&E efforts to achieve justifiable improvements in ELINT capabilities. These statements include objectives for Research, Exploratory and Advanced Development, and requirements for Engineering and Operational Systems Development.

#### IV. PROCEDURES

##### A. General

1. CIA and NSA will participate in both formal and informal coordination as necessary to achieve the most effective and economical utilization of available ELINT R&D resources through:

a. Knowledge of capabilities and efforts of other U. S. Government ELINT components and collaborating activities.

b. Effective use of available technology.

c. Avoidance of significant development gaps.

d. Elimination of undesirable duplication.

e. Optimum integration of efforts and activities.

##### B. Specific

1. CIA and NSA will participate as members of the ELINT RDT&E Coordinating Group (ERG) which will be used as a mechanism to facilitate the efficient and effective coordination of ELINT RDT&E requirements and plans. (See attached Terms of Reference.)

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2. Insofar as practical, CIA and NSA will engage in informal coordination and collaboration at the earliest stages of definition of an ELINT RDT&E requirement.

3. CIA and NSA will submit for ERG review all RDT&E requirements and programs that are peculiar to ELINT, or have been identified as directly supporting ELINT activities, with the following exceptions:



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b. Those with unique application to special (restricted-access) operations.

4. In those cases where exceptions to normal ERG review has been made, it will be the responsibility of the two Agencies' representative to ERG to ensure that the substance of R&D requirements and programs be made known as necessary in order to best satisfy national intelligence and economic interests.

5. NSA will maintain the DOD Cryptologic Scientific and Technical Information (STINFO) System as a fundamental mechanism for exchange of technical information related to ELINT RDT&E.

6. NSA and CIA will exchange technical information, engineering assistance, technical guidance, and other support in any phase of implementation at the request of either party.

7. NSA and CIA will make full use of the DOD Cryptologic STINFO System for information relating to ELINT RDT&E requirements, projects, and reports.

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8. NSA and CIA will utilize DOD forms 1498 and 1473 when providing requirements and programs to the ERG for information and review.

9. Both NSA and CIA will support the over-all goals of the National ELINT Program by the necessary exchange, through currently established channels, of background data and information relating to foreign technological trends and estimates and to intelligence requirements and priorities.

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V. IMPLEMENTATION

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Effective date of this memorandum is 1 January 1969.



*fn* Assistant Director for  
Research and Engineering  
National Security Agency



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Deputy Director for  
Science and Technology  
Central Intelligence Agency

Attachment:  
Terms of Reference

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### ELINT RDT&E COORDINATING GROUP (ERG)

#### I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

Both the National ELINT Plan (NEP) and the DoD Directive S-3115.2, Electronics Intelligence (ELINT) (U), recognize a need for the effective and timely coordination of ELINT RDT&E requirements, plans and efforts. This coordination includes the complete interchange of all ELINT RDT&E information among all participating Departments and Agencies. To provide a forum for information interchange, to expedite coordination, and to assist in the review of ELINT RDT&E requirements, plans and projects, the Director, National Security Agency (NSA) has established the ELINT RDT&E Coordinating Group (ERG) as a standing body.

#### II. PARTICIPATION

The ERG will be chaired by NSA with one member each from the Military Departments, DIA, NSA and CIA, and an observer from ODDR&E. An alternate will be designated by each organization to represent the member in his absence. Participants in the ERG will be technically qualified personnel of the designated organizations and will have the necessary experience in ELINT matters. Members will be expected to be thoroughly knowledgeable of the policies, structure, procedures and RDT&E efforts related to ELINT within their organizations.

#### III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

##### A. Meetings

1. The ERG will meet twice yearly and on the call of the chairman or of any individual member through the chairman.

2. The agenda, approved by the chairman, will be provided to the members at least two weeks prior to a scheduled meeting. Members will submit items for inclusion on the agenda to the chairman to be received not later than three weeks prior to a scheduled meeting.

3. Substantive minutes of each meeting will be prepared, and copies will be provided to the members within ten working days.

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B. Functions of the ERG

1. Insure the interchange of technical documents on RDT&E plans, requirements, objectives, programs, projects and reports relating to ELINT and make suggestions to improve the efficacy of the dissemination.
2. Provide a forum for the discussion of proposed and on-going ELINT RDT&E efforts and related technology.
3. Facilitate the effective and efficient coordination of ELINT RDT&E requirements and plans.
4. In addition to its discussion of a stated ELINT RDT&E requirement of an individual component, specifically consider the desirability of defining a joint requirement on the same subject.
5. Discuss the desirability and feasibility of satisfying similar ELINT RDT&E requirements with a joint RDT&E effort (or planned duplication).
6. Assist in the NSA technical review of ELINT RDT&E requirements, plans and programs of U. S. components.
7. Sponsor technical symposia in appropriate subject areas.
8. Consider proposed standards for ELINT equipment, subsystems and systems.
9. Maintain liaison, as appropriate, with related groups (such as the Interservice Coordinating and Integrating Group).
10. Submit recommendations to the Director, NSA, through the Assistant Director, NSA, Research and Engineering Staff, concerning any of the functions listed above.

C. Administrative Support

Required administrative support will be furnished by NSA.

D. Working Panels and Ad Hoc Participation

1. As appropriate, short-term working panels may be established by the ERG for the exchange of ideas and consideration of development approaches in specialized technical areas. The chairman will arrange for such panels as may be approved.

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2. The individual members are authorized and encouraged to arrange for ad hoc participation by specialists in the subject matter on the agenda of any particular meeting.

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